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University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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 University of Southern Maine

Department of Theatre presents



Dance USM!

directed by Lew-Ann Leen

February 4, 5, 6, 1999

Main Stage, Russell Hall
USM Gorham campus

Director's notes

The first time I heard of the Dance Festival at USM was when a friend asked me to dance with her to a song she had written and recorded. At this time, there were maybe 20 dancers performing in 7 or 8 numbers. Each dance had different people in it and all the groups worked separately, coming together for the first time during tech week.

Today *Dance USM!* has grown considerably. We have 47 dancers participating in 16 dances, but the biggest and most satisfying growth is in the comradery and company feeling the show has taken on. We now meet several times as a group, choreographers help each other with their work and dance in each other's pieces. Some dancers are working with as many as 9 choreographers. There is even a dance club on campus, where people can meet and dance throughout the school year.

This year instead of two, we are offering three great nights of dance with a wide variety of styles and experience.

I wish to thank everyone involved in this year's festival for their hard work, creativity and love of dance and you for your continued support. May we continue to grow.

Lew-Ann Leen

PORTLAND OPERA REPERTORY THEATRE

Bruce Hangen, *Artistic and General director*



July 22, 24, 26, 1999

Merrill Auditorium, Portland, Maine

Information: PORT, PO Box 7733, Portland, ME 04112 • (207) 879-0392

Design and Technical Staff

Director
Assistant Directors

Lighting Designers

Costume Designers

Sound Engineer
Stage Manager
Technical Director
Light Board Operator
Sound Board Operator
Costume Shop Supervisor
Stitchers

Deck Hands

Dresser
Arts Promotions Director
Arts Events Director
House Manager
Box Office Manager
Theatre Office

Graphic Design

Lew-Ann Leen
M.J. Emerson
Brigitte Blose
Matt Curtis
Kurt Ela
Scott Essency
Iain Odlin
Amanda Poirier
Thomas C. Vail
Caleb Wilson
Melissa Eltgroth
Jep Lombard
Alexandra Munier
Kimberly Morrill
Susan E. Picinich
Jennifer C. Tingle
Andrew Ross
Conrad Maurais
Thomas C. Vail
Brian Birkinbine
Heidi Collins
Jennifer C. Tingle
Brigitte Blose, Elizabeth
Chambers, Heather Collins,
Matt Curtis, Scott Essency,
Stephanie E. Hughes, Aaron
Lewis, Piper Major, Kendra
Maria, Amanda McKenney,
Jenny R. Michaud, Brian
Pascoe, Lori Jean Sheldon
Janelle Hamel
Troy Faucher
Corey Junkins
Cathy Dumont
Mary Snell
Emmanuelle Chaulet
Liberty Freeman
Candice Cushman
Lillian Campbell

Leigh Raposo

Biographies

Lew-Ann Leen - Director, Lew-Ann teaches jazz dance for the Casco Bay Movers; Jazz, Tap, and Ballet for the Kittery Recreation Department, and Musical Theatre Dance for the University of Southern Maine. She has choreographed several pieces for USM, Mad Horse, Portland Players, and Cape Elizabeth High School. After studying acting and dance in New York City, she moved back to Maine where she founded Shenanigans Productions in Ogunquit. This summer's show will be an original, interactive comedy Dinner Theatre piece called, "*Betsy's Home Coming Prom*."

Marcia J. Emerson (MJ) - Assistant Director, MJ is pleased to be working on her third dance show for USM. Last summer MJ received a scholarship to attend the Bates Dance Festival where she performed in the Student Finale in an excerpt of Jazz choreographer Danny Buraczeski's new work, *Ezekiel's Wheel*. She also choreographed for the U.S. Premiere of *A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue* at USM this fall. MJ teaches at the Konservatoriet in Alfred, Maine, and holds a Certificate in Dance from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. MJ is a Theatre major in her final year of study.

Brigitte Blose - Assistant Director, Brigitte is a Theatre major in her final semester here at USM. She has studied dance with the Robinson Ballet in Bangor, Maine, the Joffrey Ballet in New York City, and has choreographed at the Summer Festival of the Arts in Southwest Harbor, Maine. She has performed as a soloist with the Robinson Ballet, and she founded Sticky Tape Theatre Company in Bangor, Maine.

Thomas C. Vail - Scenic and Lighting Design, Technical Director, Tom was the Technical Director at USM for 4 years during the early 80's and designed sets for the Russell Square Players summer repertory theater. He has designed lights for Bill Chinook and Jonathan Edwards, and has worked professionally with the following local companies: Portland Stage Co. (master carpenter), The Children's Theatre of Maine (actor, set designer), Mad Horse Theatre Co. (tech director, set designer and actor), and the Stagehand's Union. He also co-created the Oak Street Theater (now Theatre) in Portland in 1992 and the Sebago Lake Schoolhouse Arts Center. Other credits include his children: John, David, Christa, and Jared. Tom currently resides in Windham with his wife, Mari, and their above-mentioned children.

Susan E. Picinich - Costume Design

Susan joined the USM Department of Theatre faculty in 1987 and has since designed costumes for 47 University productions. She has an MFA degree from the University of Michigan and previously taught at SUNY Albany and Western Illinois University. She is a member of the ensemble at Mad Horse Theatre and most recently designed their production of *Hamlet*. Other credits include seven seasons at Maine State Music Theatre: this year's premiere of Maury Yeston's new musical *In the Beginning* as well as *Man of La Mancha* and *Show Boat*, and *Sweeney Todd* and *Tommy* in 1997. Susan costumed *Crazy For You* at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia last season. Upcoming projects are *Biloxi Blues* and *Fallen Angels* at the Public Theatre in Lewiston and *The Three Sisters* at Mad Horse Theatre.

Jennifer C. Tingle- Costume Design and Shop Supervisor

Jennifer is the new costume shop supervisor for the USM Department of Theatre. For the past two years she managed the costume shop for the Bowdoin College Department of Theatre and Dance. Jennifer has designed costumes for *12th Night* and *A Winter Cabaret* at the Theatre Project, *Desdemona* at Oak Street Theatre, *Alice Through the Looking Glass* at Portland Players, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and *Ourselves Alone* for Boston University Theatre. She has worked in costume shops at Arena Stage, The Long Wharf Theatre, The Huntington Theatre, The American Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare & Co., the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Sonnenberg Studios and the Santa Fe Opera.

Andrew Ross - Sound Engineer, is a junior Theatre major from Portland, Maine. Special thanks to Meghan.

Conrad Maurais - Stage Manager, is a freshman Theatre major from Standish, Maine. He recently performed as the dentist in School House Art Center's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. He also recently worked in wardrobe for *Misalliance* at USM.

Kurt Ela - Lighting Designer, is a junior Theatre major from Fryeburg, Maine. His credits include Stage Manager for *Dirt* at USM, and Director for SPA's production of *Illuminati*. He also received USM's Grannia Scholarship. He is very excited to be a part of *Dance USM*!

Program

It's Like That

Choreography: Emily Hager

Dancers: Leslie Janel Guerin, Emily Hager, and Kelly Pontau

Lighting Design: Tom Vail

Music: US3

New Mexico

Choreography: Julie Ann Smith

Dancers: Tim Arnold and Julie Ann Smith

Lighting Design: Tom Vail

Costume Design: Jennifer C. Tingle

Music: Peter Gabriel/ Sinead O'Connor

Jungle Heart

Choreography: Brigitte Blose

Birds: M.J. Emerson, Leslie Janel Guerin, Emily Hager,
Tessa Anne Kingsley

Cats: Bet Black, Emily Zack

Hunters: Scott Essency, Joseph Paulus, Gerry Shannon,
James Shay

Lighting Design: Amanda Poirier

Costume Design: Alexandra Munier

Music: Professor Trance and the Energizers

Fallen Angels

Choreography: Patience Goodwin

Dancer: Patience Goodwin

Lighting Design: Matt Curtis

Costume Design: Patience Goodwin

Music: Dead Can Dance

City People

Choreography: Wendy E. Getchell

Dancers: Bet Black, Brigitte Blose, Elizabeth Chambers,
Danielle Estes, Emily Hager, Kimberly Morrill, Christy Riman, Erica
Ryan, James Shay, Michael Toth, and Emily Zack

Lighting Design: Matt Curtis

Costume Design: Allison Guinn

Music: Joe Jackson, Elvis Costello with The Brodsky Quartet,
Kate Bush, poetry from the play *Calm Down Mother*

No! No! No!

Choreography: Liz Foley

Dancers: Liz Foley, Trisha Palmi

Lighting Design: Scott Essency

Music: Destiny's Child

So Quiet?

Choreography: Roxanne Kenerson and Emily Hager

Dancers: Emily Hager and Roxanne Kenerson

Lighting Design: Caleb Wilson

Music: Bjork

Lindy Hop Swing

Choreography: Chris Beam and Kellsy MacKilligan

Dancers: Chris Beam, Liz Foley, Dawn Ferguson, Steve Johnson,
Destiny Dawn Long, Kellsy MacKilligan, Monica McKenzie,
Gerry Shannon, Nick Shostak, and Mandy Sumner

Lighting Design: Kurt Ela

Costume Design: Kimberly Morrill

Music: Royal Crown Review

Folding in the Rhythm

Choreography: Heather Jameson

Dancers: Kathleen Curry, Leslie Janel Guerin, Emily Hager,
Heather Jameson, Kelly Pontau and Tina West

Lighting Design: Iain Odlin

Music: Amadaduzo, Bakgethdoa Ba Morena, and
Orchestra Super Mazembe

Intermission

Barbie Girl

Choreography: Gerry Shannon

Dancers: Lynn Bettencourt, Liz Foley, Steve Johnson, Julianna
Lagin-Nasse, Monica McKenzie, Christy Riman, Mark Royer, and
Gerry Shannon

Lighting Design: Amanda Poirier

Costume Design: Melissa Eltgroth

Music: Aqua

Instinct

Choreography: Brigitte Blose

Dancers: Brigitte Blose, M.J. Emerson, Leslie Janel Guerin, Emily Hager, Tessa Anne Kingsley, and Emily Zack

Lighting Design: Kurt Ela

Costume Design: Susan E. Picinich

Music: Skinny Puppy

For The Boys

Choreography: Brianne VanDenBossche

Dancers: Lynn Bettencourt, Dawn Ferguson, Liz Foley, Emily Hager, Monica McKenzie, Kimberly Morrill, Christy Riman, Brianne VanDenBossche, and Tina West

Lighting Design: Scott Essency

Music: Foxy Brown, Next

Little Earthquakes

Choreography: Roxanne Kenerson & Jonathan Pina

Dancers: Roxane Kenerson and Jonathan Pina

Lighting Design: Caleb Wilson

Music: Tori Amos

Etta James Suite

Choreography: Marcia J. Emerson

Dancers: Brigitte Blose, Scott Essency, Emily Hager, Heather Jameson, Tessa Anne Kingsley, Joseph Paulus, Gerry Shannon, Tina West, and Emily Zack

Down in the Basement: Ensemble

Loving You More Each Day: Ensemble

A Sunday Kind Of Love: Brigitte Blose, Emily Hager, Tessa Anne Kingsley, and Emily Zack

Lighting Design: Iain Odlin

Costume Design: Susan E. Picinich

Music: Etta James

Stars, Stripes, & Swing

Choreography: Courtney Porter

Dancers: Christine Boudreau, Peter Carter, Donny Gammon, Jack Kimball, Alyson Lewis, Alicia Miller, Aaron T. Parker, and Courtney Porter

Lighting Design: Thomas C. Vail

Costume Design: Courtney Porter and Dancers

Music: Janis Siegel

Finale

Choreography: Lew-Ann Leen and Company

Dancers: Chris Beam, Brigitte Blose, Christine Boudreau, Peter Carter, Liz Chambers, M.J. Emerson, Dawn Ferguson, Liz Foley, Donny Gammon, Patience Goodwin, Leslie Janel Guerin, Emily Hager, Heather Jameson, Steven Johnson, Jack Kimball, Alyson Lewis, Destiny Long, Julianna Lagin-Nasse, Kellsy MacKilligan, Alicia Miller, Monica McKenzie, Trisha Palmi, Aaron Parker, Kelly Pontau, Courtney Porter, Gerry Shannon, Mandy Sumner, Nick Shostak, Brianne VanDenBossche, and Tina West

Lighting Design: Thomas C. Vail

Music: Louis Prima

There will be a fifteen minute intermission.

Please, no photos are allowed during the performance.

Also please turn off beepers and phones as a courtesy to the dancers and other audience members.

Scott Essency - Lighting Designer, is a junior Theatre major from Skowhegan, Maine. He performed as Ishmael in USM's production *Cruel & Unusual Punishment*.

Liz Foley is a sophomore Psychology major. Liz comes from Fairfield, Maine, where she attended Lawrence High School. She currently runs cross-country and track for USM, and has had 12 years of dance experience prior to this year's festival.

Wendy E. Getchell is a senior Theatre major with a concentration in Directing. She has studied and danced with Esduardo Mariscal, Randy James, Emily Ojala, Harold Philbrook, and Jolyn Arisman. She has choreographed for *Dance USM!* in the past four years, and directed *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds* here at USM in the March of 1998.

Patience Goodwin, a recent Theatre graduate from USM, is thrilled to be a guest in this year's festival. A Portland native, she was last seen as Celia in the production *As You Like It*. Other USM appearances include the role of Alida Bloodgood in *The Poor Of Portland*. Special thanks to Jerome Wills.

Alison Ann Guinn - Costume Designer, is a senior Theatre major from Portland, Maine. Her previous roles at USM include Props Master for *As You Like It*, *The Danube*, and *Illuminati*. She is also working as Assistant Set Designer for *West Side Story*. She received the Grannia Theatre Scholarship. This is her first time designing costumes.

Emily Hager is an undeclared junior from Wells, Maine. This is Emily's third dance festival here at USM. Last year she earned SPA's Best Dancer award. Other dance experiences include 15 years of training in ballet and jazz, as well as recent work with modern lyrical. She is currently teaching ballet at the Steppin Out Dance Studio in Saco. Emily would like to thank the choreographers and especially the dancers for their patience and time.

Heather Jameson - Guest Choreographer, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, she currently holds a major in cultural anthropology with a minor in African studies. She would like to thank all her dancers for their hard work and enthusiasm and Larry for his love and support. Heather wishes to express this: "We experience culture through activities, for example: Dance. Dance teaches history and tolerance through exposure to various cultural views and

expressions in physical movement. As a choreographer, my first priority is fun, secondly, dance is for all ages and body types and it is an opportunity for people to learn about themselves and others."

Roxanne Kenerson is an Art major with a focus in photography. She has danced ballet, modern, jazz and tap dance for 13 years. She spent four years as a member of Axis Dance Company in New Hampshire. She has participated in dance competitions and won gold and high silver medals for small group modern dances at Competitions in Manchester, NH. This is her 3rd year with *Dance USM!*.

Kelsy MacKilligan is a freshman majoring in Theatre. She was involved with Student Performing Artist's production of *Illuminati*, and is currently in their new production *Festive Shorts*, an eclectic conglomeration of short, silly skits. Kelsy became interested in Swing three years ago when she saw the movie *Swing Kids*. Thanks to those ambitious people who organized this festival and to Chris.

Kimberly Morrill - Costume Designer, is in her junior year as a Theatre major. Originally from Lisbon, Maine, she last appeared in the spotlight as "Lucy," in USM's production *A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue*. Kim is not only a dancer in this year's production of *Dance USM!*, but she is also using her skills as a costume designer in the "Stars, Stripes, and Swing" dance piece. Kimberly's last designing ideas were seen in her efforts as the assistant costume designer in USM's *Dirt*.

Alexandra Munier -Designer

Alexandra is a junior Art major. She was last seen at USM as Ruth in *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon Marigolds*. She hopes to be a costume designer and will be designing for *Sinners*, *Saints*, and *Fools* for USM in the Spring.

Iain Odlin - Lighting Designer, Iain has worked on Dance USM! for the past three years and continues to find it an illuminating experience. He has also worked with Childrens Dance Theatre and Portland High School Theatre. Iain is the technical director for Westbrook High School's theatre and is currently pursuing the title of world traveler.

Jonathan Pina - Choreographer, is a member of the Maine State Ballet and an alumni of Axis Dance Company. He has danced in the role of Frog Prince in *Sleeping Beauty*, performed as Tea From China in *The Nutcracker* for two consecutive seasons, and will be

performing as the Gypsy King in *Don Quixote* in March.

Amanda J. Poirier-Lighting Designer, Amanda is a sophomore Theatre major from Foxborough, Massachusetts. Her credits include lighting design in last year's *Dance USM!*, and sound design for *Dirt*. She won SPA's Best Student Sound Design award for her work on *The Danube*.

Courtney Porter - Guest Choreographer

Since 1991, Courtney Porter I.S.T.D, has been receiving her Ballroom training from Larry Miller and Wayne Barker. While continuing her training, Courtney has been teaching both beginning and intermediate levels at Gotta Dance, Maplewood Dance Center, as well as at the Saco River Grange Hall in Bar Mills, where her students enjoy the Waltz, Rumba, Foxtrot, Tango, Cha-Cha, Swing, and the Merengue.

Gerry Shannon, a Theatre/Music major in his sophomore year, has come from Oxford Hills to Portland, in order to further his theatre and musical interests. Last year he was seen in 1998's Dance Festival. He was a featured dancer in *A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue*. He is currently rehearsing the role of Diesel in *West Side Story* and is always training with the USM Dance Group.

Julie Ann Smith, when not studying philosophy, can be found studying modern dance under the direction of Sarah Whale and Mathew Mazzo at Ram Island Dance Studio in Portland. As a sophomore, this is her second performance for *Dance USM!*, but her first appearance as a choreographer. Special thanks to Tim for his hard work and dedication, and to others who inspired and encouraged.

Brianne-Lee Dill VanDenBossche is from Litchfield, Maine. She studied dance for 14 years at Feet First Dance Studio in Gardiner, Maine. Brianne-Lee was a varsity cheerleader for four years in high school, two of which she was a captain. She made All-Stars as a junior and received the Coaches Award her junior and senior years.

Caleb Wilson - Lighting Designer, is in his second year in USM's Theatre program. He is glad to have the chance to play with lights. He has performed on the mainstage and for SPA. His newest project is directing *Among the Oats* by local playwright Jason Hall, for an evening of comedy called *Festive Shorts*. Look for it next week .